In the time of Gods viſitation by Sickeneſſe, or Mortality eſpecially, may be vſed by Gouernours of Families

First, A Confeſſion of ſinnes.

O Eternall, Almighty, and iuſt God, mercifull, louing, and holy Father, wee thy humble ſeruants humbly confeſſe and acknowledge here in thy preſence, that all the imaginations of the thoughts of our hearts are onely euill continually, yea euery man in his beſt eſtate is altogether vanitie. And we (duſt and aſhes) haue grieuouſly ſinned, wee haue tranſgreſſed thine holy lawes and ordinances, we haue exceeded in meaſure, number and weight, the iniquities of our forefathers, and haue thereby iuſtly deſerued that thou ſhouldeſt in thy iuſt iudgement haue drawne forth the ſword of thy iuſtice, and executed vengeance, euen in the higheſt degree againſt vs, according to the meaſure, number and weight of our manifold ſinnes and haynous iniquities, we are not worthy of the leaſt of all thy mercies. Wee humbly alſo confeſſe and acknowledge (euen againſt our ſelues) that neither thouſands of Rammes, nor tenne thouſand riuers of oyle (if we were able and willing to yeeld them vnto thee) are ſufficient to ſatisfie thy iuſtice for the leaſt of the iniquities which we haue committed againſt thee, if thou ſhouldeſt turne thine eye of mercy and compaſſion away from vs; and theſe things heretofore we confeſſed (O Lord) but our liues we amended not. And yet notwithſtanding (O mercifull Lord, holy and louing Father) ſo great is thy louing kindneſſe towards vs, and ſo manifold are thy mercies, that thou (of thy fauour) haſt beene pleaſed (euen in pittie and compaſſion for thine owne ſake, without any deſert of ours) to pacifie thine owne wrath, by a few light and eaſie ſtrokes with thy rod of correction, and ſo for a time to ceaſe thine anger, to trie vs if we would ſeeke after thee, not ſuffering thy puniſhing Angel to paſſe through *Ieruſalem* and *Iudea*, *London*, and other theſe dominions, with a ſwift courſe and heauy hand, as in the dayes of King *Dauid*. And (finding vs a rebellious and ſtiff-necked people) haſt ſent out thine Angel to threaten and execute vengeance in greater weight, and in greater meaſure againſt vs, if we will not amend. And yet in fauor ſtayeſt from executing thy fierce wrath. What ſhall we then offer vnto thee (O Lord our God) for all the bleſſings which we haue receiued from thee? Thou haſt no neede to receiue of vs, all beaſts, all cattell, all ſheepe on mountaines; yea the earth is thine, and all that therein is, the world, and they that dwel therein, we our ſelues, and all that we haue are thine, what haue we that we haue not receiued of thee? We confeſſe (O Lord) euen againſt our ſelues, that we haue nothing to offer but the calues of polluted lippes, proceeding from vncleane & vncircumciſed hearts, that is, praiſe, thankes, and prayer, and the ſame (if thou ſhouldeſt conſider them as they are ours) very ful of vanities and corruptions.

Secondly, A thankſgiuing for deliuerances.

SVch as we haue (yet) O mercifull father, we (more humbly and more freely, and hartily, then heretofore) offer vnto thy Maieſtie. Wee praiſe thy holy, great and glorious name, and we yeeld vnto thee humble and hearty thankes for thy great & wonderfull deliuerances; deliuerances from peſtilence, famine, & ſword, heretofore worthily threatned againſt vs, & for other thy manifold fauors & bleſſings bountifully beſtowed vpon this Citty, and vpon this Land, & (now eſpecially Lord) for thy great mercie, in that thou art pleaſed, euen now at this preſent, once againe to touch the people of this Land for their triall, with thy louing rodde of fatherly correction, rather then in iuſtice to powre out the vials of thy wrath, vtterly to conſume vs for our vnthankefulneſſe and diſobedience.

Thirdly, A Prayer for continuance of Gods mercies.

ANd we humbly and hartily pray thee (O Lord) euen for thine owne names ſake, and for thy Sonne our Sauiour Ieſus Chriſtes ſake, lay not to our charge our offences paſt, forgiue vs our iniquities, couer our ſinnes, and impute them not vnto vs, and then wee ſhall be bleſſed. Purge, frame, and forme our hearts anew; ſoften them, and make them repentant and obedient, willing freely without backe-ſliding or halting to yeelde obedience vnto that ſpirite which ſaith: Giue me the hart; deliuer vs alſo (holy Father) not onely from periſhing by waters, according to thy mercifull and gratious promiſe made of olde, but alſo from that aboundance of waters, which may kill, hurt and hinder, the ſeede or fruits of the earth, and giue vs holy Father (as gratiouſly in great mercie thou haſt giuen vs) onely that former and that latter raine, commended in thy holy word, and other ſeaſonable and temperate weather, which may yeeld vnto the good ſeede of the ground; as now, ſo hereafter, (by thy bleſſing) in times conuenient life, growth and increaſe, ſo as we may by thy gracious fauour, as this yeare, ſo others alſo, at length reape the fruites of plentifull haruеſts: And becauſe ſo it is (Lord) that thou makeſt a land barren for the wickedneſſe of them that dwell therein, change thou our hearts (we humbly beſeech thee) roote out the wickedneſſe from the hearts of the inhabitants of the land, and then we ſhall be ſure that the land ſhall yeeld her increaſe. Giue vs O Lord thy grace and holy ſpirit, to guide and gouerne vs, and to hold vs within the liſts and limites of thy holy precepts and ordinances, in ſuch ſort, as that we may for euer hereafter, vſe thy word as the onely wiſe, and all-ſufficient rule to ſquare our liues by, knowing that all vnwritten verities, and all traditions, and inuentions of men, yea all the imaginations of the thoughts of our hearts are onely euill continually; let thy word be a lanthorne to our feete, and a light vnto our pathes, knowing that therein is the true Kings high way to be found, that leadeth to euerlaſting life and ſaluation, and that all other wayes which haue not warrant from thence (if thou ſhalt in iudgement looke into them) will be found to be but by-paths, leading to eternall death and deſtruction. Giue vs (O Lord) a holy and earneſt deſire, often to heare thy holy and heauenly word: giue vs wiſe, vnderſtanding, faithfull and obedient hearts, that we may truely vnderſtand, & faithfully beliеue; & may (not for feare, or faſhion, or for any other worldly reſpect whatſoeuer, but in a true obedience for conſcience ſake) fruitfully practiſe in our liues and conuerſations thine holy ſtatutes & ordinances. Continue thy grace, mercy, and accuſtomed louing kindneſſe (O Lord we beſeech thee for thine owne names ſake, and for thy Sonne our Lord and Sauiour Ieſus Chriſtes ſake) vnto King *Iames* our bleſſed *Dauid*, and vnto the Queene, and the Prince his ſonne, and to all his royall progeny. And grant (if it be thy good pleaſure) that he may attaine to the yeares of the eldeſt of his Fathers, in the dayes of their Pilgrimage, ſet vp his ſeede after him (Lord we beſeech thee) and ſtabliſh the throne of his Kingdome in his poſteritie in all ages, ſo as there may not want a man of his ſeede to ſit vpon his throne, to feede people in *Iacob*, and thine inheritance in *Iſrael*, ſo long as the heauen and the earth indure. Be mercifull alſo vnto all *Iſrael*, *Ieruſalem*, and *Iudea*, *London*, and all the Kings Dominions; and to the Magiſtrates and Miniſters of thy holy word and ſacraments. In their ſeuerall degrees, dignities, and callings, giue them (O Lord we beſeech thee) a true loue and zeale of the execution of thy holy lawes, that they may (according to thine owne appointments) faithfully, dilligently, and with a religious care and conſcience, of the aduancement of the glorious goſpel of thy Sonne our Lord and Sauior Ieſus Chriſt, diſcharge that great charge and weightie burthen which thou haſt laide vpon them: and ſtop the entry and paſſage (O Lord) both to Magiſtracie and Miniſtery, ſo as neither rauening wolues deuourers, nor wily foxes deceiuers of thy flocke, nor any others, but ſuch onely as thou knoweſt to be furniſhed with gifts fit for the diſcharge of thoſe great and weighty callings, be ſuffered to enter or paſſe thereunto. We vſe meanes (O Lord) to preſerue health, and to auoide and expulſe infection: But we depend not vpon them, we truſt not in them, wee humbly confeſſe, that no good ſucceſſe, no bleſſing, can come but from thee, and by thee alone: and therefore we humbly and hartily pray thee to giue ſucceſſe, and to yeeld thy bleſſing thereunto, and to ſay once againe to thine Angel, Hold now thy hand. More particularly (O holy Father) continue alſo (we beſeech thee) thy mercy and louing kindeneſſe to the little flocke within this houſe, and to thy humble and vnworthy ſeruant whom thou (of thy fauor) haſt appointed to be ouerſeer thereof, and giue vnto them thy grace in ſuch meaſure that they may ſo walke euery of them in their ſeuerall places and callings, as may be agreeable to thy holy and bleſſed wil, through Ieſus Chriſt our Lord and onely Sauiour. In whoſe name wee humbly further pray vnto thee for theſe and all other things which thou in thy wiſdome knoweſt to be moſt meete for vs, and for thy whole Church, in that forme of prayer which he himſelfe hath taught vs. *Our Father which art in heauen, &c.*

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